

MelNet update

25 September 2025



JOIN US AT THE SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

AND HELP SET THE FOUNDATIONS FOR SKIN CANCER NEW ZEALAND

 7.30 - 8.00 PM TUESDAY 14 OCTOBER 2025

 VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

[FIND OUT MORE BELOW](#)

Reminder of Special General Meeting | 14 October 2025

Date: Tuesday 14 October 2025

Time: 7:30 – 8:00 pm

Location: Via [Microsoft Teams](#) | Meeting ID: 412 097 314 024 7 | Passcode: 8Sm2WJ6p

The Executive Committee have called this Special General Meeting to:

1. **Adopt an updated Constitution.** This [revised document](#) will reflect our rebrand to Skin Cancer New Zealand Incorporated, modernise our governance structures, and improve compliance with the Incorporated Societies Act 2022.
2. **Announce the inaugural Executive** of Skin Cancer New Zealand. As only six nominations were received, all nominees will be elected unopposed. Please note, results will only be announced if the revised Constitution is adopted.

These decisions will set the foundation for strong governance, clear direction, and the future growth of Skin Cancer New Zealand. We look forward to seeing you there.

[Download the draft Constitution \(amendments highlighted in red\)](#)

[Add the meeting to your calendar](#)

Skin Cancer Study Day for Nurses | Register now

Friday 14 November 2025

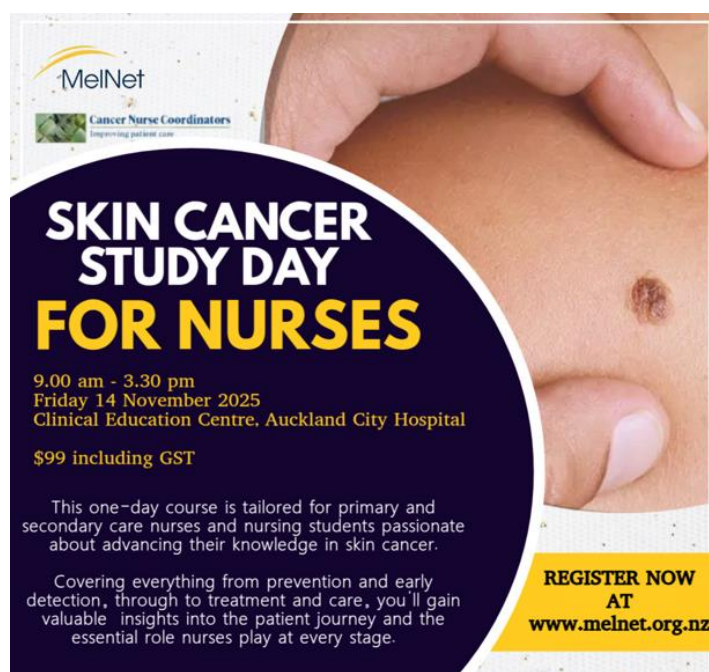
Clinical Education Centre, Auckland City Hospital

[Register now](#) and secure your space at the popular [Skin Cancer Study Day for Nurses](#).

The study day is designed for primary and secondary care nurses and nursing students seeking to advance their knowledge of skin cancer. Covering prevention, early detection, treatment, and care – and highlighting the nurse's role throughout – it's also a great opportunity to connect with colleagues around the country.

The cost of attending is \$99 (including GST).

[Find out more](#) | [View the programme](#) | [Register](#)



MelNet
Cancer Nurse Coordinators
Improving patient care

SKIN CANCER STUDY DAY FOR NURSES

9.00 am - 3.30 pm
Friday 14 November 2025
Clinical Education Centre, Auckland City Hospital

\$99 including GST

This one-day course is tailored for primary and secondary care nurses and nursing students passionate about advancing their knowledge in skin cancer.

Covering everything from prevention and early detection, through to treatment and care, you'll gain valuable insights into the patient journey and the essential role nurses play at every stage.

REGISTER NOW AT
www.melnet.org.nz

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Major sponsor:



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Melanoma Research and Therapy Special Interest Group meeting | 9 October, Dunedin

Thursday 9 October 2025, 10:15 – 11:45 am

Dunedin Centre

The next meeting of the [Melanoma Research and Therapy Special Interest Group](#) will be held in conjunction with the [NZSO Conference](#) in Dunedin on 9 October 2025.

Don't miss this meeting with a presentation from Dr Ashani Weeraratna – a world-renowned expert on melanoma metastasis, Wnt signaling and aging – on "*Age against the Machine: understanding Melanoma in the context of the aging human body*".

[Register now](#)

Dr Weeraratna has also kindly offered some time at the end of the session if anyone wishes to engage in some mentoring. If you are interested in this, please contact the meeting chair, [Dr Annie Wong](#) directly to schedule a time.

The Melanoma Research and Therapy Special Interest Group brings together clinicians and researchers from across New Zealand to tackle the big challenges in melanoma care.

The group's goals are to:

- Reach consensus on current issues and turn solutions into action
- Raise standards of care by promoting and driving melanoma research

Please [contact us](#) if you are interested in joining the group.

Shade in council managed outdoor spaces | NZ Playground Explorer app expanded

Earlier this year, Dr Bronwen McNoe, senior research fellow and co-director of the Social and Behavioural Research Unit at the University of Otago launched a web app with detailed filterable information and photographs of every council managed playground in New Zealand. Along with helping parents find a playground their children will enjoy, the app enables communities across New Zealand to be safe in the sun by helping them identify where they can find shade in playgrounds.

This app has now been expanded to include youth recreational spaces and swimming pools. As UV levels rise over the coming months, this app is an excellent tool to support healthy choices about where families spend time outdoors.

[Access the app](#)

Utilising melanoma risk prediction tools for newly diagnosed patients | MIA podcast

This episode from Melanoma Institute Australia's podcast *Melanoma Insights for Professionals* explores how melanoma risk prediction tools are transforming clinical decision-making for newly diagnosed patients.

Multidisciplinary experts provide practical guidance on using tools to predict sentinel node metastasis, recurrence risk and more. Through real-world case examples and expert insights, this episode offers valuable strategies for integrating personalised risk assessment into your practice.

The risk predictor tools, developed by MIA and freely available at melanomarisk.org.au and via the [MelNet website](#), help clinicians tailor care and improve outcomes.

[Listen to the podcast](#) (free log-in required)

Please note that this podcast was produced in Australia. Treatment availability and practices may differ in New Zealand.

Interesting research papers

Pre- and post-treatment care for actinic keratoses: An Australian and New Zealand perspective

This article aims to provide recommendations for the pre-treatment and post-treatment care for actinic keratoses in order to improve patient outcomes, particularly in the Australian and New Zealand setting.

[Read the article](#)

Management of Skin Toxicities in Cancer Treatment: An Australian/New Zealand Perspective

This review details twelve common dermatological toxicities encountered during cancer treatment and offers measures for their prevention and management, particularly in the Australian/New Zealand context where skincare requirements may differ to other regions due to higher cumulative sun damage caused by high ambient UV light exposure.

[Read the review](#)

Interlaboratory variability of SPF results is considerable and likely greater than expected

This study examined the consistency of SPF test results when the same sunscreen was tested across different laboratories. It found considerable variation, particularly in products with higher SPF ratings. Despite careful procedures, differences in how sunscreen was applied and how skin responses were assessed led to significant discrepancies. The findings highlight the need for more reliable and standardised testing methods to ensure consumers can trust the protection promised by sunscreen products.

[Read the report](#)



October 2025

LA ROCHE POSAY
LABORATOIRE DERMATOLOGIQUE

Melanoma
New Zealand

melanoma.org.nz

Melanoma Awareness Month | News from Melanoma New Zealand

Throughout October, Melanoma New Zealand are holding Melanoma Awareness Month.

In partnership with La Roche Posay, Melanoma New Zealand will be hosting free spot check events in Auckland, Hamilton, Tauranga, Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin to raise awareness about melanoma prevention and early detection and encourage Kiwis to take action.

Melanoma Awareness Month is also a timely opportunity to reinforce the prevention and early detection messages you already share with patients. A suite of resources to support these conversations is available on the [MelNet website](#).

Upcoming opportunities and events

Goodfellow Unit CPD for primary care - webinars

Navigating radiology: Referral to result | 30 September, 7:30 pm – 8:45 pm

James Entwistle and Alex Viner present a practical overview of the new Community Radiology Programme and Regional Hubs, including how these changes aim to streamline access and improve equity of care across Aotearoa. Danielle Gerrard overviews the national community radiology referral criteria - an important shift towards standardisation.

[Find out more and register](#)

Back to basics: Sun, sunscreen, skin cancer prevention | 28 October, 7:30 pm – 8:45 pm

In this webinar, Dr Sam Mayhew, GP Specialist, Skin Cancer Doctor, Sports Medicine Doctor, and MelNet Executive Committee member, will take us back to basics — exploring UVA and UVB, the harm they cause, where sunscreen fits in, and how to turn key concepts into clear, effective sun protection messages.

[Find out more and register](#)



This meeting is open to all professionals who are providing care for patients with cancer. The conference features:

- [Open Public Plenary session](#), to be held on Wednesday 8 October at University of Otago campus.
- Presentation of [prestigious awards](#).
- Poster and oral presentations.
- An insightful He Akoranga Whakahoungia session – promoting Māori innovation towards achieving health equity in oncology.
- The [Melanoma Research and Therapy Special Interest Group](#) meeting and other [Special Interest Groups](#) – delegates are welcome to attend all sessions.
- Early to mid-career networking and mentoring event.

[Find out more and register](#) [View the programme](#)

The advertisement for the 2025 Australasian Ocular Melanoma Alliance Virtual Summit. It features a dark green background on the left with white and yellow text. The text reads '2025 Australasian Ocular Melanoma Alliance Virtual Summit' and 'Saturday 8 November 2025'. On the right, there is a photograph of a man in a suit sitting at a desk, looking at a computer monitor. The monitor displays a close-up of a human eye with a circular, futuristic graphic overlaid on the iris. Below the photograph, a white banner with the text 'Registrations open' is visible. At the bottom left, the AOMA logo is shown, consisting of the letters 'AOMA' in a bold, sans-serif font with a stylized eye graphic. At the bottom right, the Melanoma and Skin Cancer Trials Limited logo is displayed, featuring a yellow circle and the text 'Melanoma and Skin Cancer Trials Limited'.

This full-day Virtual Summit, hosted by Melanoma and Skin Cancer Trials and the Australasian Ocular Melanoma Alliance (AOMA), will bring together healthcare professionals, researchers, and consumers to share latest research and foster national and international collaboration on this rare and aggressive cancer.

The free event will feature leading international and Australian ocular melanoma experts, as well as consumers sharing their experiences. Sessions will cover clinical trials, emerging therapies, advances in ophthalmology, radiation oncology, and recent national and global research.

[Find out more](#)

[Register now](#)

Other upcoming opportunities and events

October	November
Speaking up and speaking out: advancing science in a polarised world 8 October 2025 Dunedin Find out more Melanoma Research and Therapy Special Interest Group Meeting 9 October 2025 Dunedin Find out more Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine Starts on 10 October 2025 Online and practical workshop in Sydney, Australia Find out more Certificate of Dermoscopy – Online Starts on 16 October 2025 Online Find out more ESMO Congress 2025 17 – 21 October 2025 Berlin, Germany Find out more	Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC) 2025 5 – 9 November 2025 National Harbor, USA Find out more Skin Cancer Study Day for Nurses 14 November 2025 Auckland Find out more Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine and Surgery 22 November 2025 Auckland Find out more Certificate of Advanced Skin Cancer Medicine and Surgery 22 - 23 November 2025 Auckland Find out more For more events see the MelNet events calendar

Skin Cancer Education targeted at Primary Care Practitioners can be found [here](#).

Courses starting **anytime**:

Skin Cancer Symposiums

[Advanced Certificate of Dermoscopy](#)

[Dermoscopy Masterclass](#)

[Mini course \(free\): Dermoscopy and Melanomas](#)

[Certificate of Skin Cancer Medicine and Surgery](#)

Skin Cancer College Australasia

[Introduction to Skin Cancer](#)

HealthCert

[Skin Cancer Medicine](#)

[Skin Cancer Surgery](#)

[Dermoscopy](#)

[Medical Certificate of Dermoscopy for Dermatology](#)

[Advanced Certificate of Dermoscopy for Dermatology](#)

[Advanced Certificate of Histopathology for Dermoscopy](#)

[Masterclass in Dermoscopy](#)

Recent MelNet website news postings

Below is a selection of recent news postings on the MelNet website. Please visit the [website](#) to view all the latest news items.

[Phase 1b study of tovorafenib, plozalizumab or vedolizumab plus standard-of-care immune checkpoint inhibitors in patients with advanced melanoma](#)

[Clinical perspective on the current burden of melanoma overdiagnosis and its future value for progress in the field of melanoma](#)

[Outcomes of pembrolizumab in advanced melanoma by age and sex](#)

[Clinicopathologic gene expression profile \(CP-GEP\) model can reduce number of unnecessary SLNBs performed](#)

[Evaluation of nivolumab and ipilimumab for the treatment of resectable stage III melanoma: Improved outlook for patients with Stage III melanoma](#)

[Low triglyceride levels are associated with increased risk of immune-related adverse events in patients receiving immune checkpoint inhibitors](#)

[The epiMelanoma test enables plasma-based detection of melanoma and prediction of immunotherapy response](#)

[Is wide local excision after primary excision of melanoma in situ unnecessary?](#)

[Regular sunscreen users may need supplementary vitamin D](#)

[Dynamic recurrence risk prediction tool for adjuvant therapy in stage III melanoma empowering informed decision-making](#)

[Cutaneous melanoma management — Update and narrative review for the General Surgeon](#)



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